HIS MAIESTIES Last MESSAGE,

Septemb. 12. 1642.

Directed to His Right Trusty and Wel-beloved, the *Speaker* of the House of PEERES,

WITH

A Declaration of the Lords and Commons in Parliament,

Concerning an insolent Letter sent to Mr. CLARKE at *Graughton* neere *Brackley* in *Northamptonshire*, From Sir JOHN BIRON Knight, since the inhabitants of that County apprehended divers Rebels under his command.

Whereunto is annexed a Coppy of the said LETTER.

13. Septemb. 1642.

ORdered by the *Lords* and *Commons* assembled in *Parliament*, That this Declaration and Letter shall be forthwith printed and published.

J. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON
Printed for *T. Wright*. 14. Septemb. 1642.

To Our Right Trusty and Wellbeloved,

The SPEAKER

of the House of PEERES.



E have taken most waies, used most endeavours, and made most reall expressions to prevent the present distractions and dangers; let all the world judge, as well by former passages as by Our two last Messages, which have been so trustlesse, that though we have descended to desire and presse it, not so much as a treaty can be obtained, unlesse we would denude our selfe of all power to defend us from a visible strength marching against us, and admit those persons as Traitors to Us who according to their duty, their oathes of Allegiance, and the Law, have appeared in defence of Us their King and Liege-Lord, whom

whom wee are bound by Conscience and Honour to preserve, though to the hazard of all Our Publique Professions and Declarations, and erecting of Our Standard against Our Parliament: All wee have now left in Our power is to expresse the deepe sense wee have of the publique misery of this Kingdome, in which we involved that of our distressed Protestants of Ireland, and to apply our selfe to our necessary defence, wherin we wholly rely upon the providence of God and the Justice of our cause, and the affection of our good people; so far wee are from putting them out of Our protection, when you shall desire a treaty of Us, We shall piously remember whose bloud is to be spilt in this quarrell, and cheerefully embrace it. And as no other reason induced Us to leave our City of London, but that with honour and safety wee could not stay there nor raise any force, but for the necessary defence of Our Person, and the Law, against levies in opposition to both, so we shall suddenly and most willingly return to the one and disband the other as soone as those causes shall be removed. The God of Heaven direct you and in mercy divert those judgements which hang over this Nation, And so deale with Us and our Posterity as we desire the preservation, and advancement of the true Protestant Religion, the Law and liberty of the Subject, the just rights of Parliament, and the peace of the Kingdome.

New Book 2 Car. VI. Mondays

A DECLARATION Of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament.

WHereas Sir *John Biron* Knight, upon the 28 of *August* last with divers Troopes of Horse in a Traiterous and warlike manner, did march into the County of *Northampton*, with an intention to kill, rob, and spoyle his Majesties Subjects in that and other Counties, to the great terror and affrightment of the Inhabitants of those parts; whereupon divers of His Majesties loyall and well affected Subjects of the said County, according to their duty did assemble themselves together, and pursue the said Traytors, and Rebells, and apprehended divers of them, and

and routed the reſt, whereby their Traytorous deſignes were for that time prevented. Since which time the remainder of thoſe Troopes that eſcaped, joyned againe in a body, and in manner as before, forcibly entred the City of *Oxford*, and plundered, robbed, and ſpoyled, his Majeſties faithfull Subjects there, and forced divers to leave their owne habitations, and to fly elſewhere for protection from their fury. And whereas the Lords and Commons, have beene ſince informed, That the ſaid Sir *John Biron*, the head and ringleader of thoſe Traytors, in a preſumptuous and inſolent way, wrote a Letter to one Maſter *Clarke* of *Craughton* a Gentleman of quality in the ſaid County of *Northampton*, a Coppy whereof is hereunto annexed, whereby moſt falſely and impudently he preſumes to ſtile the faithfull, and dutyfull ſervice of His Majeſties good Subjects in apprehending and chaſing the ſaid Rebells by the name of treachery and rebellion, indeavouring to transfer that odious crime and title due unto himſelfe to them, and uſing divers menacing ſpeeches againſt Maſter *Clarke*, and others, thereby

thereby as much as in him lyeth to deterre His Majesties good Subjects from resisting him and his associates in their Traiterous attempts.

The Lords and Commons taking the same into their consideration, do declare that the Assembling together of the said Inhabitants of the County of *Northampton*, and their pursuing, apprehending, and chasing the said Rebells, was according to the Lawes of the Land and the duty they and all good Subjects owe to the King and Commonwealth, and their service very acceptable to both Houses of Parliament, who will take them and all others that shall follow their good examples into their care and protection.

To

To M. Clarke at Craughton neere Brackley in Northamptonshire.

SIR,

IN my way to Oxford, I made some stay at Brackley to refresh my selfe, and my Horses, after a long march, where I was unexpectedly assaulted by sundry Troops of rebels that came (as I am since informed) from Northampton, and the adjoyning places, and withall most treacherously set upon by the townes of Brackley, so that I was forced to make a speedy retreate to the Heath to resist them, had they had the courage to come forth of the towne. In this confusion one of my Groomes who had charge

charge of my baggage was surprized in the towne, another who had a Box, wherein was money, apparrell, and other things of valew, left it in a land of standing Corne, which since hath been found, and as I heare brought to you; I have therefore sent this Messenger to require the restitution of it; which if you doe, I shall represent it to his Majesty, as an acceptable service, if not, assure your selfe I will finde a time to pay my selfe with advantage out of your estate. And consider, that as rebellion is a weed of a hasty growth, so it will decay as suddenly; and that there will be a time for the Kings loyall Subjects to repaire their losses sustained by rebels and traytors; So I rest in expectation of a speedy answer by this bearer,

Oxford 2. Sep. 1642. Your friend and servant, John Biron.

FINIS.